Statement

The following incentives have been approved by the Government to encourage Private Sector participation in Generation and Distribution of Power:

- Debt-equity ratio has been raised upto 4:1
- Increase in the prescribed rate of return for the licences has been approved from the existing 12% to 15%.
- Capitalisation of interest during construction has been permitted at the actual (cost instead of at present 1% above the Reserve Bank rate) for the initial project as well as for the subsequent expansions.
- Period of initial validity of the licence has been increased to 30 years from the existing 20 years and subsequent extension for 20 years on each occasion.
- Exemption to private licencees from obtaining clearance under the MRTP Act has been approved.
- To ensure additional resource mobilisation, it has been proposed that atleast 60% of the outlay is to come from sources other than public financial institutions; and atleast 11% is to come through promoters contribution.
- Private Sector companies have been allowed to operate as generating company independantly like NTPC or in association with Central Government/State Government/SEB.
- Such generating companies are permitted to sell power on the basis of standardised two part tariff determined with reference to operational norms and optimal PLF prescribed by the Central Electricity authority Government and higher rate of depreciation notified by Central Government.
- It is expected that efficient operation of the generating companies will bring in better rate of return for them.
- All licensees/generating companies are to operate within the provisions of Electricity Supply Act, 1948 and under the discipline of intergrated grid operations.
- To consider encouraging foreign investment in the power sector and include provisions for such participation within the ambit of the general policy frame-work of liberalisation of foreign invstment in the country, it will be necessary that as an integral part of liberalisations measures simplification of the procedure for considering applications for private units in the power sector is achieved by establishment of a — high Powered Board for single point clearance of applications in this regard. The High Powered Board would comprise of Secretaries of the concerned Ministries/Department in the Union Government and co-option of senior State Government representatives as required.
- Captive generating units are being encouraged to sell/distribute surplus power to SEBS. on the basis of contractual agreement and standardised two part tariff.
- Necessary amendments to the Electricity Acts are being brought out shortly.
- Special Cell is proposed to be created in Department of Power to deal with proposals expeditiously for private sector participation.

Crisis in Hotel Industry

92. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that hotel industry is facing crisis due to fall in the number of tourists visiting India;

(b) whether Government are aware that a number of hotels may close down as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to attract more tourists?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Steps are being taken by the Government to increase the inflow of tourists to India by improving the tourism infrastructure and strengthening the marketing efforts.

Report on Airbus crash at Bangalore

93. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhatt Commission appointed to probe into crash of Indian Airlines Airbus A-320 at Bangalore has submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are the details of its findings; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The report of the Court of Inquiry, along with the Government's decisions thereon, has been tabled in the House on 10th January, 1991. The Court of Inquiry had made 62 recommendations. Action has been initiated to implement the recommendations accepted by the Government.

Fleet requirements of airlines

94. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have lately reviewed the aircraft fleet requirements of Indian Airlines, Air India and Vayudoot;

(b) if so, what is the outcome thereof; and

(c) what steps are contemplated by Government to augment and update the fleet for meeting the requirements of these Corporations indicating the nature and number of aircraft to be procured or deinducted?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The fleet requirements of Air India and Indian Airlines are kept under constant review. Both Air India and Indian Airlines have been directed recently to prepare a long term perspective plan for fleet renewal so that the fleet is kept young and modern. With due consideration to commercial viability, availability of financial resources, and other relevant factors, the fleet of both the national carriers would be renewed from time to time.

As regards Vayudoot, given the facts that it has accumulated losses, the options concerning its future are under the consideration of the Government.

कश्मीर में पर्यटन के क्षेत्र में हानि

95. श्री राम नरेश यादव :
श्री अरंगिल श्रीधरन् :

क्या नागर विमानन तथा पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कश्मीर की सैर करने वाले पर्यटकों से हुई आय का ब्यौरा क्या है तथा पर्यटन के क्षेत्र में हानि के क्या कारण हैं ;

(ख) क्या जम्मू और कश्मीर में कानून और व्यवस्था की बिगड़ती हुई हालत के कारण वहां पर्यटन उद्योग में गिरावट आई है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार इस संबंध में आ रही रूकावटों को दूर करने हेतु कोई प्रभावी कदम उठा रही है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?